The Andover Council on Aging Board (COAB) met in regular session on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 8:00 am at The Center at Punchard, 30 Whittier Court, Andover, MA.

Co-Chair Ann Grecoe called the meeting to order at 8:03 am and on ROLL CALL: Present were Don Robb, Mike Basile, Joe Ponti, Mike Roli, Ann Grecoe, Margaret O'Connor, Joan Fox, Stu McNeil and Jane Gifun. Absent was Kaye Devanna.

Also present were Kathy Urquhart, Director of Elder Services, Donna Morse, Executive Secretary of Elder Services and Linn Anderson, Finance Committee liaison.

## **Minutes**

On Motion by Margaret O'Connor, which was seconded by Ann Grecoe, it was voted to accept the April Minutes as amended. On VOICE VOTE the motion was declared as PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

# **Director's Report**

Kathy Urquhart reported that one of the staff had to go to court to get a No Harassment Order against the same citizen whom The Center had just served with a No Trespass Order. The citizen had been harassing the staff person at church and other locations. Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski is drafting a Standards of Behavior for the Town. Kathy reported that Whittier Court will be 2-way for the Youth Center construction vehicles. The Board said that the traffic flow needs to be more clearly marked. Kathy shared logos that had been done by the Greater Lawrence Technical School students. The Board reviewed them all and then, by consensus, chose one that they felt, with a few adjustments, would be the final selection. Changes requested: remove the flower, change the word "The" to the purple used for "growing together" and put it where the flower was, change "Center at Punchard" to the dark green used in the grass and then lighten the grass. They requested a separate graphic without the grass. Kathy reported that she had attended a recent "Solarize Andover" forum held at The Center. She felt that solarizing could be a savings to residents. She stated that she has been trying to reach Selectman Dan Kowalski but hasn't heard back from him. She has also talked with Maddie St. Amand with the Commission on Disabilities about a tri-board meeting, including TRIAD. However, The Commission has a full schedule right now with Bancroft School. It was decided to possibly have the tri-board meeting in July at the regular COAB meeting.

# **Old Business**

It was reported that Kathy Urquhart and Ann Grecoe will be interviewing several prospective Board members. The Board talked about whether or not they should have associate members. It was felt that it was a way to groom prospective members and for current members to stay involved when their terms end. They voted 8 to 1 in favor of having associate members.

#### **New Business**

Town Meeting Follow-up and Feedback - Don Robb thanked Linn Anderson, our FinCom liaison, for her support of the department's budget and warrant article. The Board is eager to work on the home rule petition (Town Meeting Article 29) now that it is in the public domain. Ann Grecoe stated that everyone needs to work together and all have the same information moving

forward. Linn Anderson suggested that the Selectmen need to be on board to move the petition forward and also suggested that they stay in touch with the *Andover Townsman*. A subcommittee (Mike Roli, Joe Ponti, Jane Gifun and Ann Grecoe) was created to start looking into the information needed for this project. Ann will collect all of the data from the sub-committee members and coordinate it. They scheduled a meeting for Monday, May 19 at 3 pm at The Center. Kathy Urquhart stated that she had been approached as to why the Board had not supported Town Meeting Article 32, a request by the Andover Retirement Board, to increase the base used for Town retirees' cost of living increases from \$12,000 to \$14,000. She explained a story by a Town retiree that had been shared at Town Meeting, helping to explain why the increase was important and that it meant a \$60 increase per year per retiree. Linn Anderson stated that she would share with FinCom why it is important to have clear explanations available about warrant article before Town Meeting.

# **Updates on Action Items**

Margaret O'Connor stated that she will attend the May Andover Senior Community FRIENDS meeting. Kathy agreed to email the FRIENDS By-Laws to the COAB members. Kathy reported that the Andover Chroniclers have recorded several of The Center's programs to be shown on Community TV. She stated that participants will be asked at the May registration if they have a parking sticker for The Center parking. Kathy stated that four dates have been scheduled for SCRPT meetings.

Don Robb and Ann Grecoe received a letter from the Secretary of State in response to the Open Meeting Law complaint filed by Jo-Ann Deso in March. It stated that no further action was required.

## **Action Items**

- Kathy Urguhart and Donna Morse will follow-up with the logo changes requested
- Donna Morse will post the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Home Rule Petition sub-committee
- Kathy Urguhart will email the ASCF By-Laws to the Board members

On MOTION of Joe Ponti and seconded by Jane Gifun, the meeting adjourned at 9:58 am.

The next meeting is June 12, 2014

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Morse Recording Secretary